

REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 7-12 and 20-28 have been canceled. Claims 1-6, 13-19 and 29-42 are pending.

Claim Rejections – Provisional Double Patenting

Claims 1-6, 13-19 and 29-42 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting based upon claims 1-17 of copending Application No. 10/667,685. DePuy Products, Inc. (Assignee of the instant application) has enclosed a Terminal Disclaimer.

Supplemental IDS

The Examiner's attention is drawn to the Supplemental Information Disclosure Statements filed on 08/30/2007 and 09/14/2007, and in particular to the Declaration of inventor Ray C. Wasielewski dated 08/22/2007 submitted with the IDS of 08/30/2007, wherein an experimental use of a device is described.

Conclusion

It is believed that the claims 1-6, 13-19 and 29-42 are in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,
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